

This is regarding the VRS (video relay services) for the deaf. I work for Vocational Rehabilitation and am the Coordinator for service to the Deaf, and deafblind. We have a difficult time getting qualified interpreters. Since the FCC pays the VRS services so much, we can not get interpreters to work for us. The cost has been driven out of sight since the VRS system is able to pay \$38/hr with benefits. I have clients in school who no longer have interpreters- since they left mid semester. over 70 classes currently not covered, and at least 5 students who couldn't go to school at all this year because we are unable to get interpreters. I would like to see the FCC reduce what the VRS companies are receiving and bring the costs back in line.